

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

JAMES B. COSGROVE
First Selectman

JOSEPH E. HIGGINS, JR.

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Town of Branford *Fair Housing Policy Statement*

It is the policy of the Town of Branford to promote fair housing opportunities and to encourage racial and economic integration in all its programs and housing development activities.

Programs funded and administered by this Town of Branford must comply with the provisions of Section 46a-64c of the C.G.S., and with related state and federal laws and regulations that prohibit discriminatory housing practices.

The Town of Branford or any of sub-recipient of the Town of Branford will carry out an affirmative marketing program to attract prospective buyers or tenants of all majority or minority groups, without consideration of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, lawful source of income, disability, age or because the individual has children in all programs and housing development activities funded or administered by the Town of Branford.

The municipality's Planning & Zoning Department is responsible for the enforcement and implementation of this policy. The Town Planner, Harry Smith may be reached at 203-488-1255 or hsmith@branford-ct.gov.

Complaints pertaining to discrimination in any program funded or administered by this Town of Branford, may be filed with the Planning & Zoning Department. The municipality's Grievance Procedure will be utilized in these cases.

Complaints also may be filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunity, Special Enforcement Unit, 21 Grand Street, Hartford, CT 06106, Telephone (860) 541-3403 within 180 days of the alleged violation by submitting a notarized complaint and/or the Boston Regional Office of FHEO, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, Room 321, Boston, MA 02222-1092, Telephone (617) 994-8300 or 1-800-827-5005, TTY (617) 565-5453. A complaint may be filed with HUD within one year after an alleged violation. Additionally, an individual may file suit, at his/her expense, in Federal District Court or State Court within two years of an alleged violation. If the individual cannot afford an attorney, the Court may appoint one. A suit can be brought even after filing a complaint, if the complaining party has not signed a conciliation agreement and an Administrative Law Judge has not started a hearing. A court may award actual and punitive damages and attorney's fees and costs.

A copy of this policy statement will be given annually to all Town of Branford employees and they are expected to fully comply with it. In addition, a copy will be posted throughout the Town of Branford.

THIS STATEMENT IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT OR ON AUDIO TAPE by contacting Harry Smith, 1019 Main Street, Branford, CT 06405, 203-488-1255.

Adopted by the Board of Selectmen on April 5, 2017


James B. Cosgrove, First Selectman